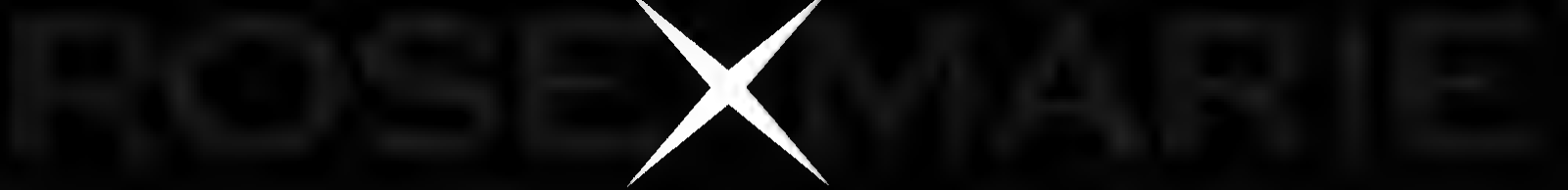
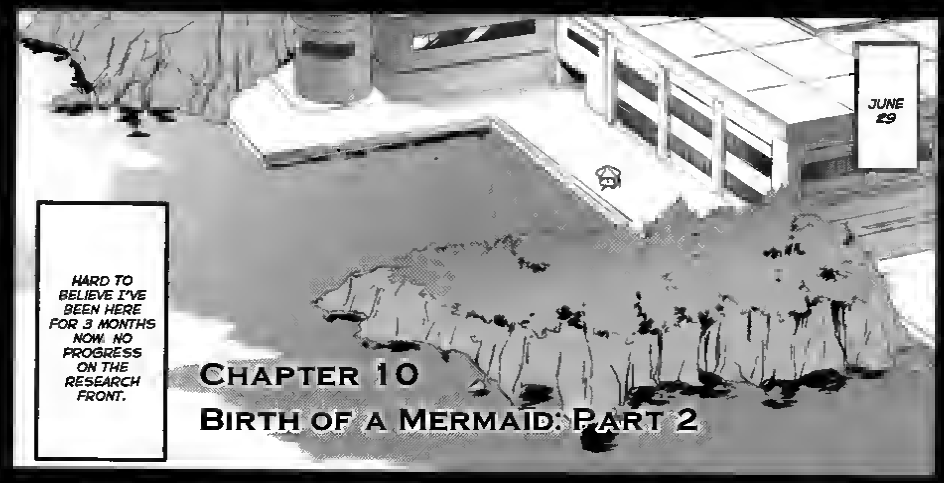
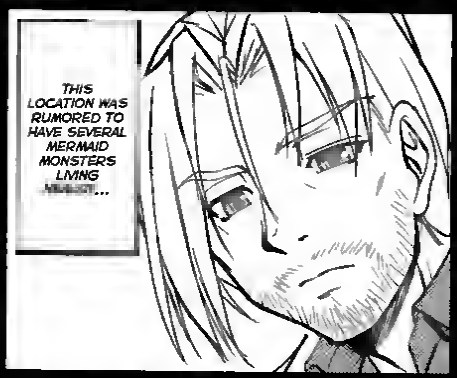
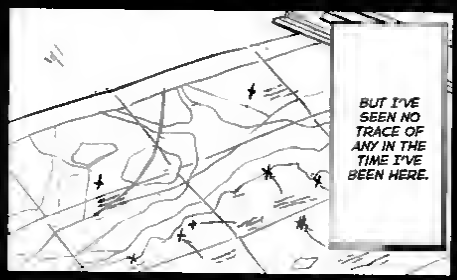

ROSE MARIE

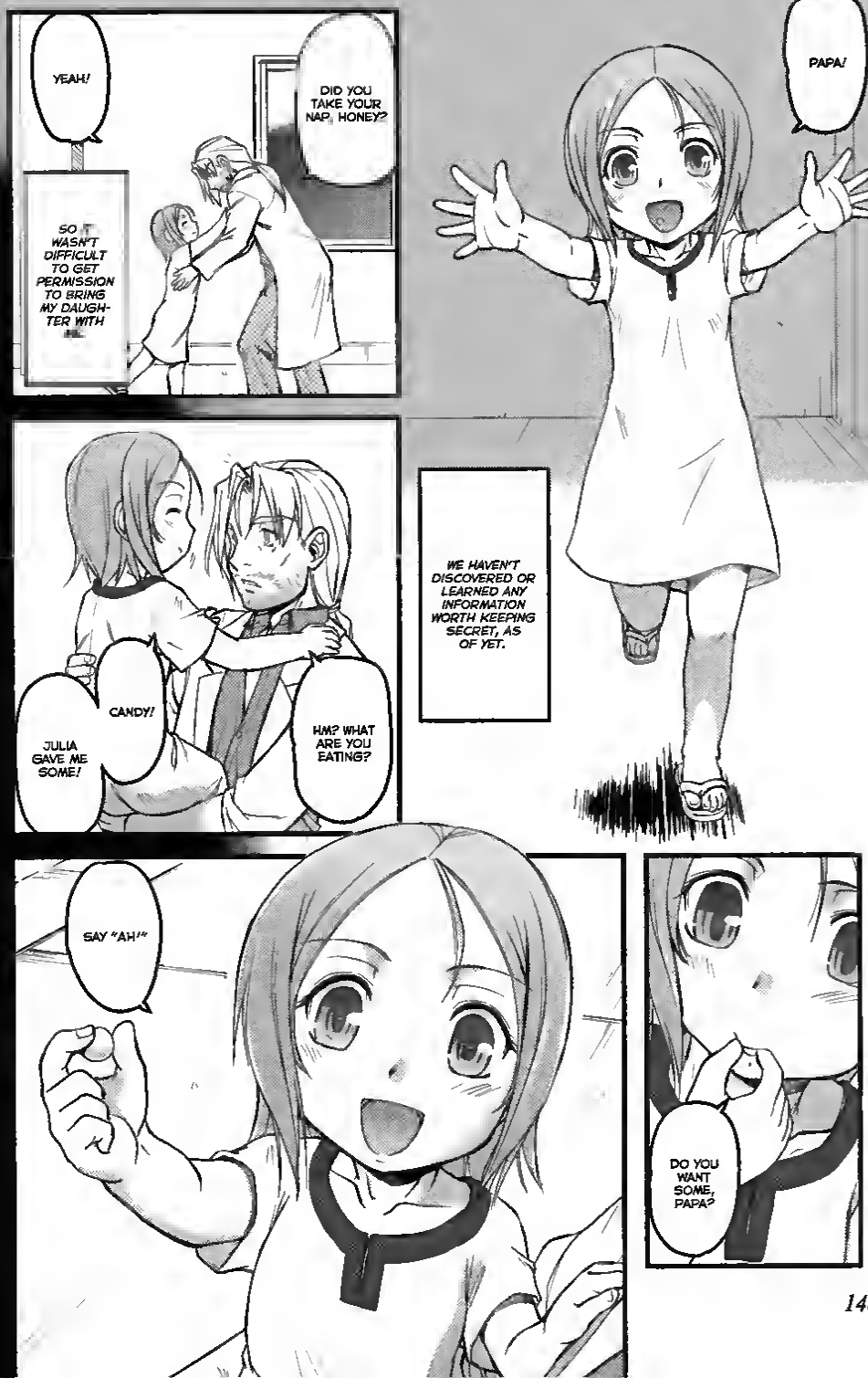

JUNE 29
HARD TO BELIEVE I'VE BEEN HERE FOR 3 MONTHS NOW. NO PROGRESS ON THE RESEARCH FRONT.
Chapter 10
Birth of a Mermaid: Part 2


THIS LOCATION WAS RUMORED TO HAVE SEVERAL MERMAID MONSTERS LIVING [illegible]...

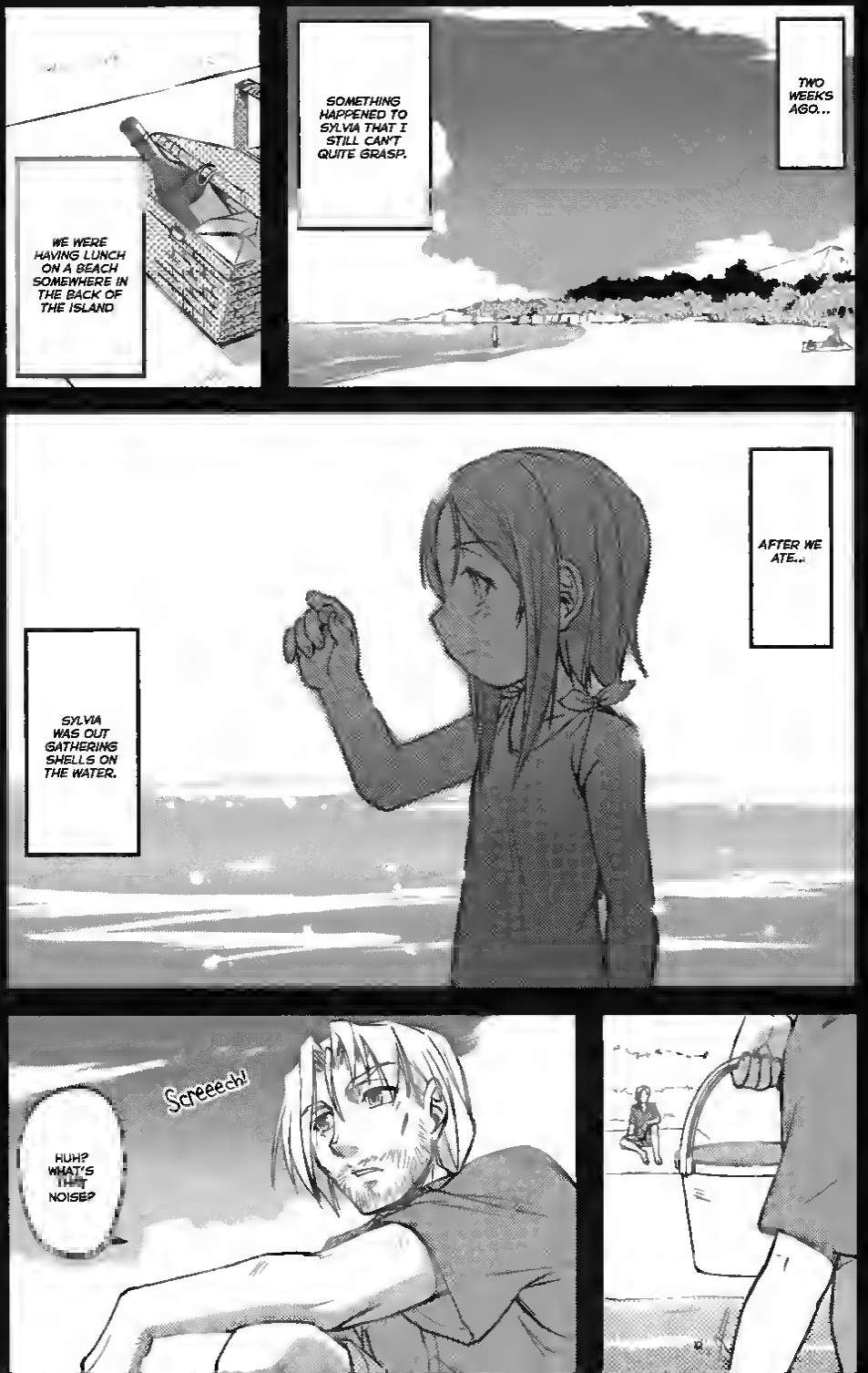

BUT I'VE SEEN NO TRACE OF ANY IN THE TIME I'VE BEEN HERE.

PAPA!

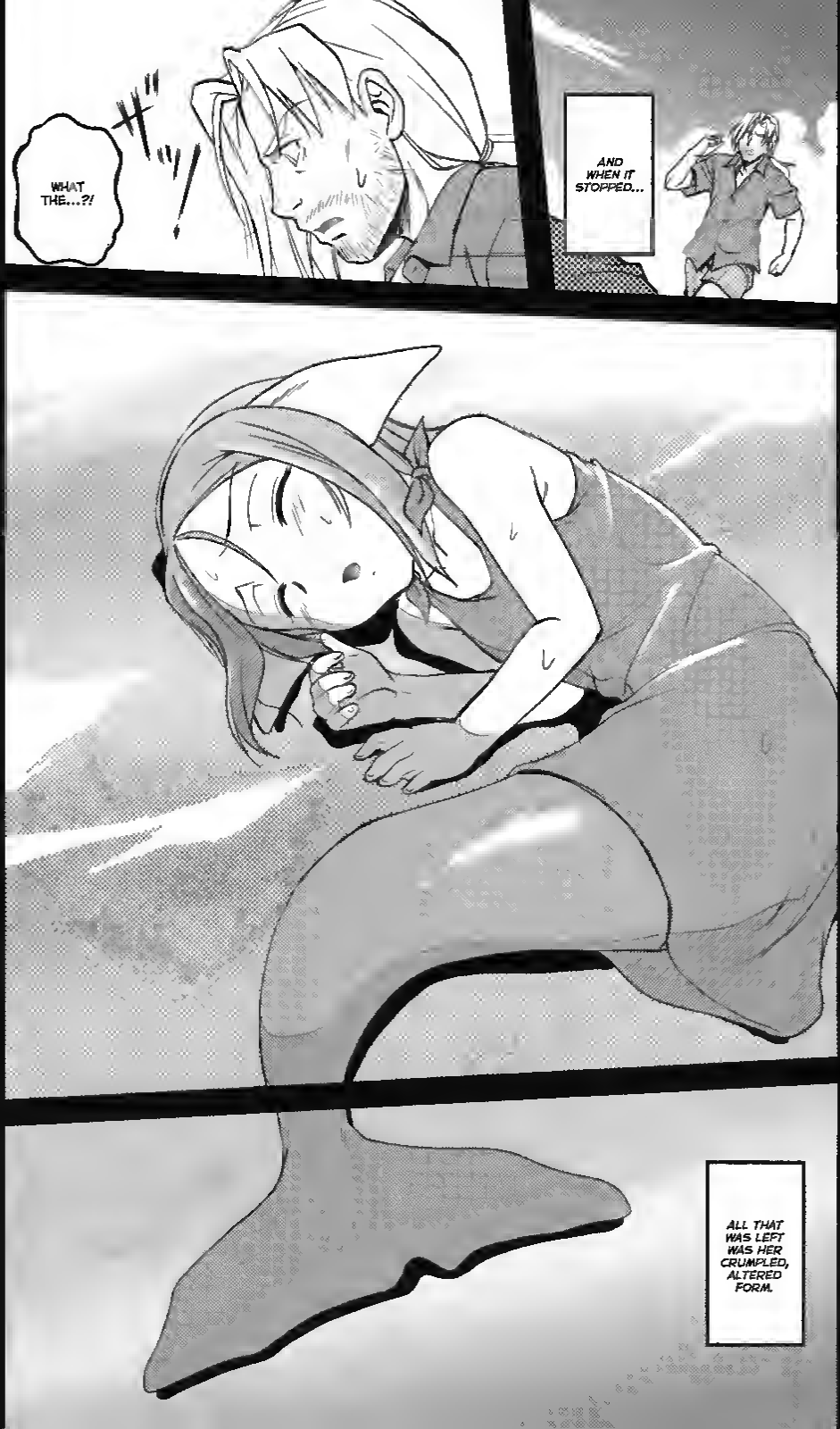
WHERE, EXACTLY DO MONSTERS COME FROM?
MY COLLEAGUES AND I ARE HERE TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION, BUT THUS FAR WE'VE DONE NOTHING BUT SQUANDER OUR BUDGET ON DEAD ENDS.


YEAH!
DID YOU TAKE YOUR NAP, HONEY?
SO IT WASN'T DIFFICULT TO GET PERMISSION TO BRING MY DAUGHTER WITH
PAPA!
WE HAVEN'T DISCOVERED OR LEARNED ANY INFORMATION WORTH KEEPING SECRET, AS OF YET.
CANDY!
JULIA GAVE ME SOME!
HM? WHAT ARE YOU EATING?
SAY "AH!"
DO YOU WANT SOME, PAPA?

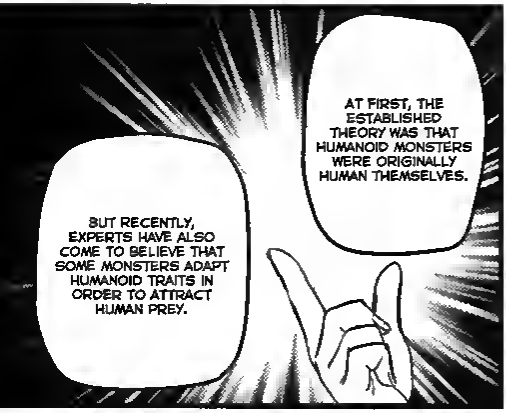
BUT SHE'S ALL I HAVE LEFT OF MY WIFE. SHE'S THE REASON I GET OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING.
MAYBE IT'S AN EXTRAVAGANT REQUEST TO BRING SYLVIA HERE, SEEING AS HOW I CAN GO HOME FOR TWO DAYS A WEEK...
IS THIS JUST A PARENTING DIARY?
SHE'LL BE HERE FOR TWO WEEKS, AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR TIME TOGETHER.
JULY 11
IT'S TAKEN ME A WHILE TO PROCESS MY THOUGHTS ENOUGH TO WRITE THIS DOWN.
HE TENDED TO WRITE DOWN EVERY-THING HE THOUGHT.
KEEP READING.

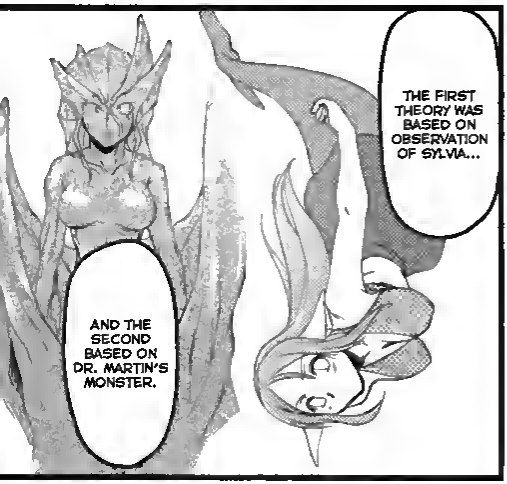

WE WERE HAVING LUNCH ON A BEACH SOMEWHERE IN THE BACK OF THE ISLAND
SOMETHING HAPPENED TO SYLVIA THAT I STILL CAN'T QUITE GRASP.
TWO WEEKS AGO...
AFTER WE ATE...
SYLVIA WAS OUT GATHERING SHELLS ON THE WATER.
Screeech!
HUH? WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

Screeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee
eeeeeeeeeeeeeeee


WHAT THE...?!
AND WHEN IT STOPPED...
ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS HER CRUMPLED, ALTERED FORM.

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! IT *CAN'T* BE TRUE!
A *HUMAN* TRANSFORMING INTO A *MONSTER*?!
HOW COULD IT BE THAT *SIMPLE*?!


AT FIRST, THE ESTABLISHED THEORY WAS THAT HUMANOID MONSTERS WERE ORIGINALLY HUMAN THEMSELVES.
BUT RECENTLY, EXPERTS HAVE ALSO COME TO BELIEVE THAT SOME MONSTERS ADAPT HUMANOID TRAITS IN ORDER TO ATTRACT HUMAN PREY.

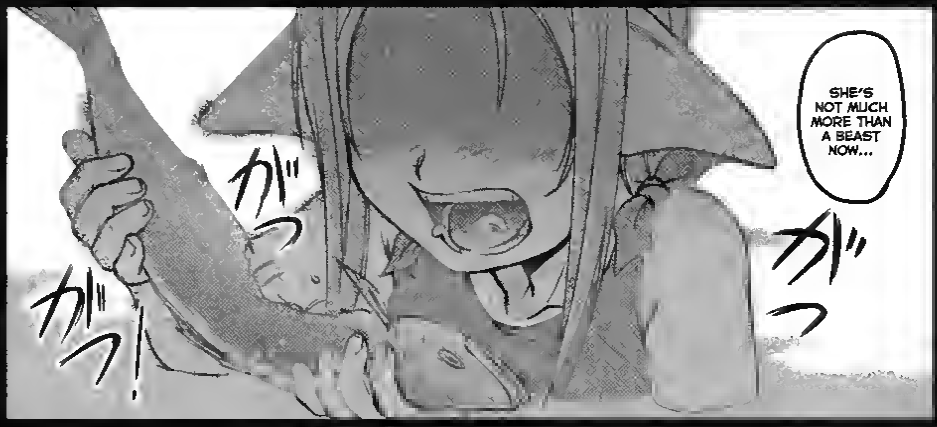

THE FIRST THEORY WAS BASED ON OBSERVATION OF SYLVIA...
AND THE SECOND BASED ON DR. MARTIN'S MONSTER.

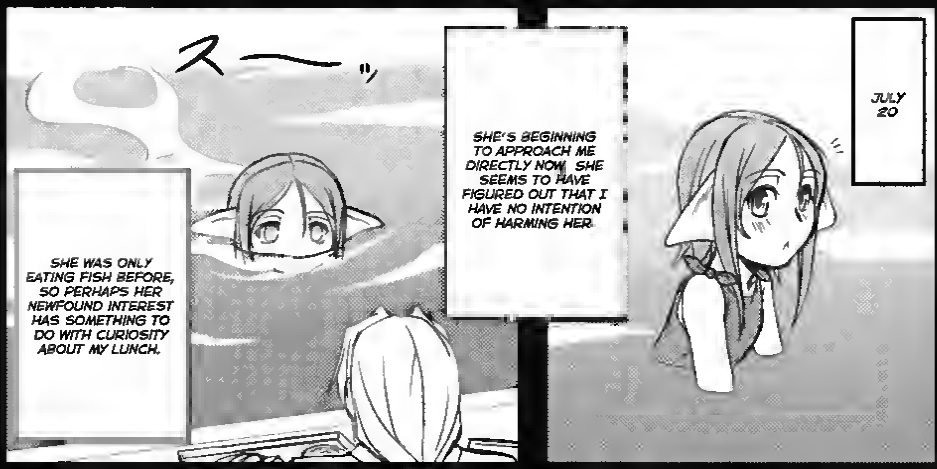
WHETHER YOU BELIEVE IT OR NOT IS IRRELEVANT.
IT'S A RECORD OF THE FACTS AS THEY HAPPENED.
THE ORGANIZATION STANDS BY HIS WORDS.

BUT... HOW COULD THIS BE THE FIRST TIME WE'VE HEARD OF SUCH A THING?!
IT'S QUITE TRUE.
BUT ONLY RANK A HUNTERS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT ARE TOLD OF IT.
THEN WHY DIDN'T THEY TELL US WHEN THEY PROMOTED US?!
THEY KNEW YOU WOULD REACT TO IT POORLY.
EVEN MORE POORLY THAN YOU ARE NOW.
!
UP TO THAT POINT YOU'D ONLY ENCOUNTERED MONSTERS THAT WERE HOSTILE TO HUMANS.
WHEN YOU MET ME AND SYLVIA FOR THE FIRST TIME, IT CAUSED YOU CONSIDERABLE STRESS AND ANGER.
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A FURTHER BLOW TO YOUR PSYCHES...
IF YOU LEARNED THAT HUMANOID MONSTERS WERE ONCE HUMAN THEMSELVES.

IT'S ALL A MATTER OF TIMING, YOU SEE.
YOU NEEDED TO LEARN THE TRUTH AS SOON AS YOU COULD HANDLE IT...
AND NOW...
THE DAY HAS COME
IN MY JOB AS A RESEARCHER, I DESPERATELY WISHED TO WITNESS THE BIRTH OF A MONSTER. PERHAPS THIS IS MY FITTING PUNISHMENT.
BUT THIS IS ALMOST TOO MUCH TO BEAR.
WHY COULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN ME INSTEAD?

WHY MUST SYLVIA...
スン スン
はっ
NO...
I CAN NO LONGER EVEN CALL HER SYLVIA.


SHE'S NOT MUCH MORE THAN A BEAST NOW...
ガッ
ガッ
ガッ!

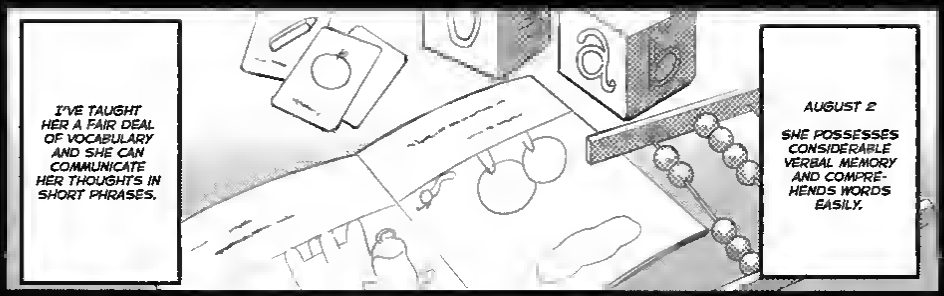

JULY 20
SHE'S BEGINNING TO APPROACH ME DIRECTLY NOW. SHE SEEMS TO HAVE FIGURED OUT THAT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF HARMING HER.
SHE WAS ONLY EATING FISH BEFORE, SO PERHAPS HER NEWFOUND INTEREST HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH CURIOSITY ABOUT MY LUNCH.
スーッ

SHE'S BEEN WILLING TO TRY BREAD, SALAD, EVEN HAM.
SHE MAY BE ABLE TO HANDLE A REGULAR HUMAN DIET.
COFFEE'S A NO-GO, I SEE...
ロ"

WHAT ARE YOU NOW?
IS THE SYLVIA I KNEW GONE FOREVER?
BUT NOW, SHE'LL HAPPILY EAT ANYTHING.
BEFORE THE EVENT, SHE WOULD NEVER EAT HER CARROTS.
WHAT ARE...
YOU NOW?
?!
YOU CAN TALK?!

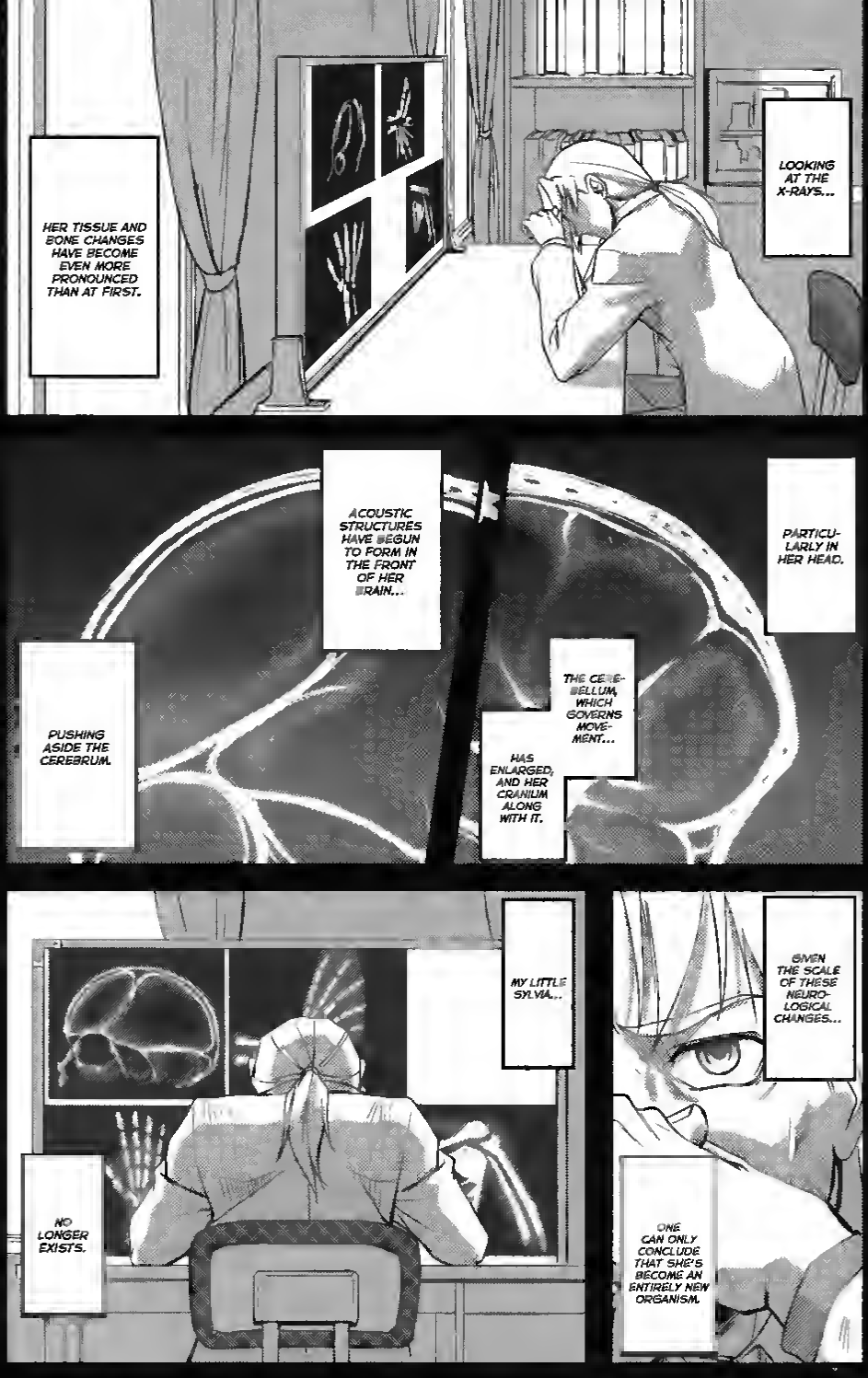
YOU NOW!
WHAT ARE...
YOU NOW YOU NOW!

I'LL TRY TEACHING HER MORE WORDS TOMORROW.
BUT I WONDER...
SHE'S JUST MIMICKING MY WORDS.


I'VE TAUGHT HER A FAIR DEAL OF VOCABULARY AND SHE CAN COMMUNICATE HER THOUGHTS IN SHORT PHRASES.
AUGUST 2
SHE POSSESSES CONSIDERABLE VERBAL MEMORY AND COMPREHENDS WORDS EASILY.

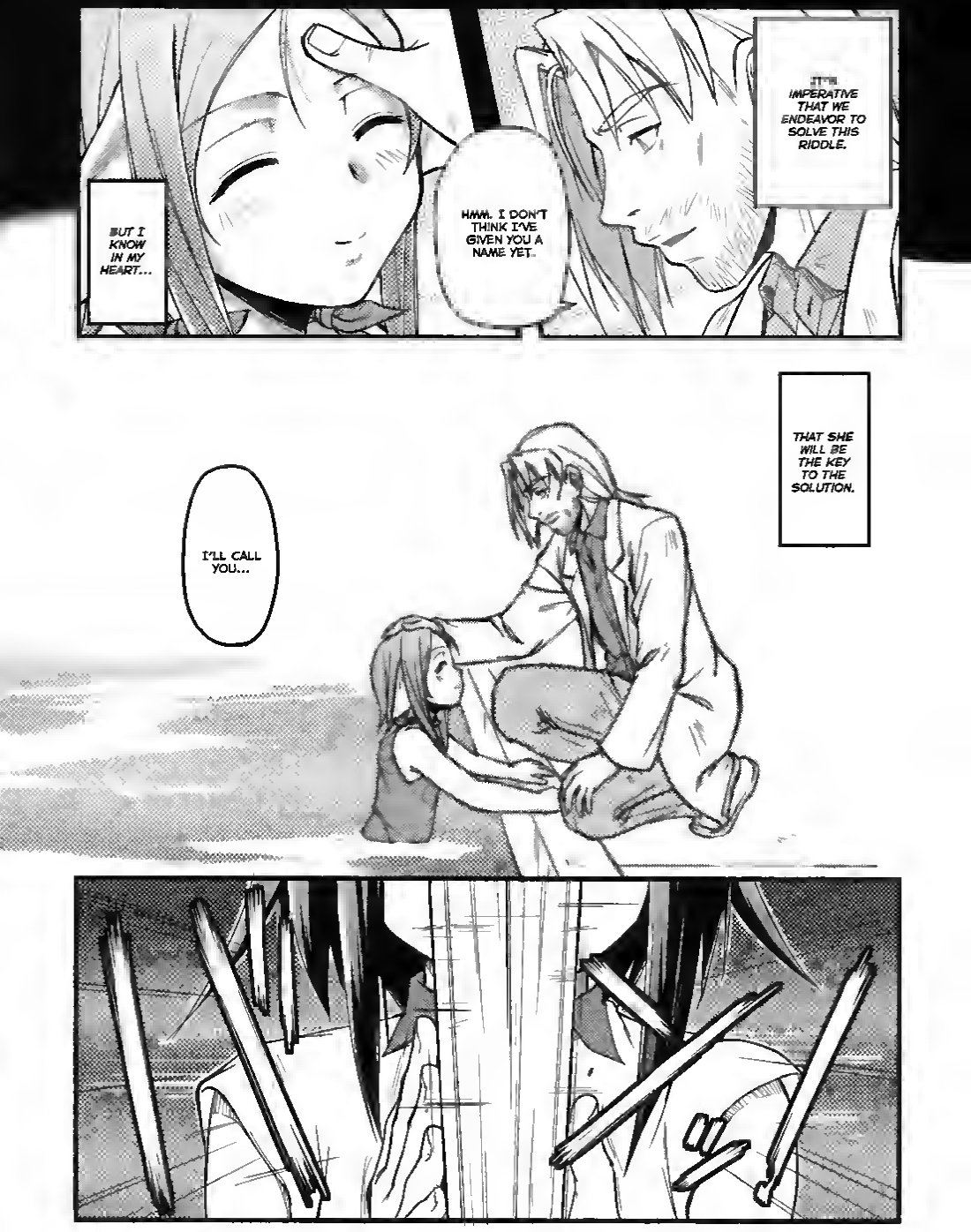
ONE SUSPICION
ARE YOU SYLVIA?
I CAN CONFIRM.
TELL ME.
PERHAPS...

I THINK MY LITTLE GIRL MAY BE BEYOND MY ABILITY TO SAVE.
PERHAPS WHATEVER HAPPENED HAS MADE HER LOSE HER MEMORY COMPLETELY.
SYLVIA?
WHAT'S THAT?
IF ONLY WE COULD GO BACK TO THE WAY THINGS WERE...
AUGUST 10
MY HOPES...
HAVE COMPLETELY FADED

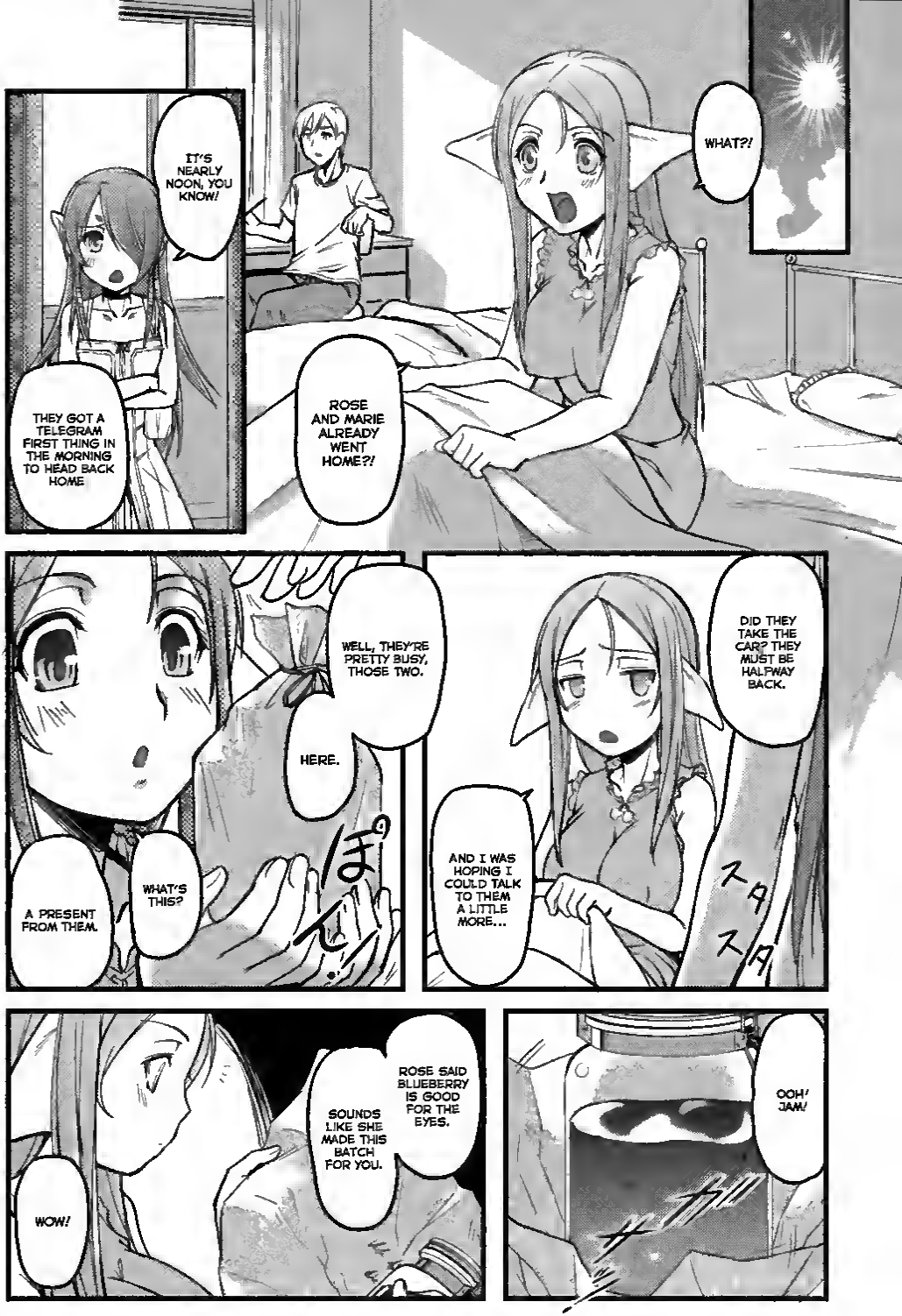

LOOKING AT THE X-RAYS...
HER TISSUE AND BONE CHANGES HAVE BECOME EVEN MORE PRONOUNCED THAN AT FIRST.
PARTICU-LARLY IN HER HEAD.
ACOUSTIC STRUCTURES HAVE BEGUN TO FORM IN THE FRONT OF HER BRAIN...
THE CERE-BELLUM, WHICH GOVERNS MOVE-MENT...
HAS ENLARGED, AND HER CRANIUM ALONG WITH IT.
PUSHING ASIDE THE CEREBRUM.
GIVEN THE SCALE OF THESE NEURO-LOGICAL CHANGES...
MY LITTLE SYLVIA...
ONE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT SHE'S BECOME AN ENTIRELY NEW ORGANISM.
NO LONGER EXISTS.

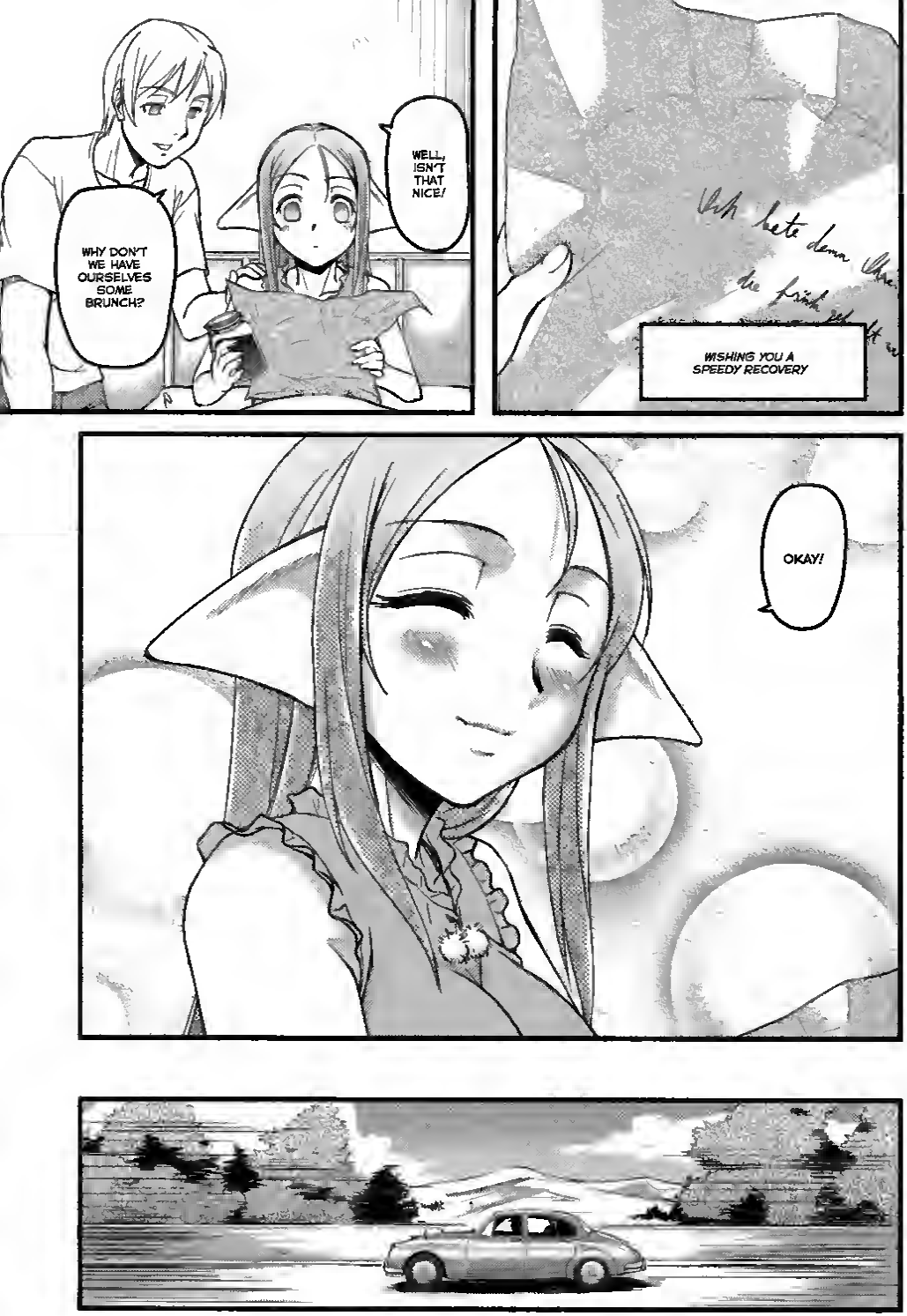
WHERE DOES MY RESPONSIBILITY LIE TO THIS MONSTER?
THIS MOCKERY OF MY OWN DAUGH-TER?
WHAT'S WRONG, PROFES-SOR?
PROFES-SOR!
PROFES-SOR! LOOK!
PLEASE! CAN YOU JUST QUIET...
DOWN?
HELLOOO!
HERE! C'MON!
...
HERE! HAVE ONE!
YOU'LL FEEL BETTER!

BY ALL RIGHTS, MY DAUGHTER SHOULD HAVE BEEN LONG GONE.
BUT YET, HERE SHE WAS...
HOW DID THEY COME TO BE?
YOU'RE STILL FULL OF SURPRISES.
JUST WHAT ARE MONSTERS?
THANK YOU.


IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT WE ENDEAVOR TO SOLVE THIS RIDDLE.
HMM. I DON'T THINK I'VE GIVEN YOU A NAME YET.
BUT I KNOW IN MY HEART...
THAT SHE WILL BE THE KEY TO THE SOLUTION.
I'LL CALL YOU...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
HEY! WAIT A SECOND!
グイ
HUH?
DID YOU FINISH READING IT? SHE'S...
:SIGH:
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL, YOU KNOW...


WHAT?!
IT'S NEARLY NOON, YOU KNOW!
THEY GOT A TELEGRAM FIRST THING IN THE MORNING TO HEAD BACK HOME
ROSE AND MARIE ALREADY WENT HOME?!
WELL, THEY'RE PRETTY BUSY, THOSE TWO.
HERE.
WHAT'S THIS?
A PRESENT FROM THEM.
DID THEY TAKE THE CAR? THEY MUST BE HALFWAY BACK.
AND I WAS HOPING I COULD TALK TO THEM A LITTLE MORE...
ROSE SAID BLUEBERRY IS GOOD FOR THE EYES.
SOUNDS LIKE SHE MADE THIS BATCH FOR YOU.
WOW!
OOH! JAM!


WELL, ISN'T THAT NICE!
WHY DON'T WE HAVE OURSELVES SOME BRUNCH?
WISHING YOU A SPEEDY RECOVERY
OKAY!

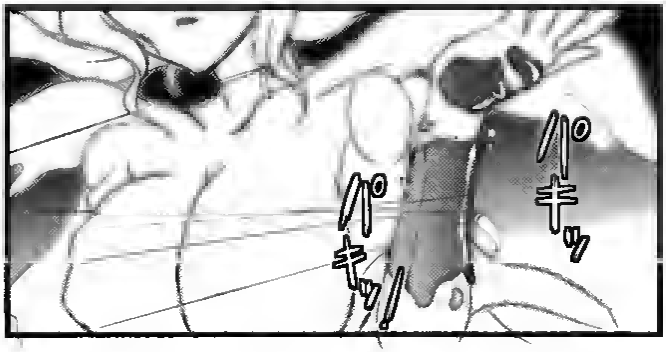
HMM...
HUMANS AND
MONSTERS...

LADY RAYE REPORTING.
REQUESTING STATUS UPDATE FROM ALONZO'S TEAM.
TARGET HAS DEVIATED 200 METERS WEST FROM ANTICIPATED COURSE.
WE CAN'T GET IT BACK ON TRACK!
I'LL HANDLE IT. KEEP YOURSELF OUT OF HARM.
DAMMIT! I'M GOING IN FOR AN ATTACK!

MY GUN'S NOT EFFECTIVE AT THIS RANGE! GETTING IN CLOSE...
ボウ!
ダッ!
ダダダダ
BE CAREFUL, LADY RAYE!
THERE'S MORE THAN ONE-
THIS IS MARCUS! ALONZO IS DOWN!
!!

HOLD IT!
NOT ONE STEP FURTHER!

YOU'LL FIND THE WOUNDS FROM THESE WIRES WON'T HEAL SO EASILY.
BETTER FOR BOTH OF US IF YOU COME ALONG QUIETLY, OR ELSE...



.....

IS *THAT* WHAT THEY'RE USING NOWADAYS?
WHAT THE?!

WHAT?! IS THAT A HUNTER?!
I DO APOLOGIZE, BUT COULD I CONVINCE YOU TO LEAVE HER ALONE?
WHAT'S A HUNTER DOING WITH A MONSTER?!
!!
YOU'RE FROM WALES, I TAKE IT?
NOT SO FAST!

ドカ
ドッ
ハッ
ハッ
ハ

I CAN TELL YOU'RE SKILLED, BUT NOT SKILLED ENOUGH.
. GRGH!
IF YOU'RE GOING AFTER *HER*, YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE IT ALL OR NOTHING.

発行◎株式会社キルタイムコミュニケーション
〒104-0041　東京都中央区新富1-3-7ヨトコウビル　TEL.03-3555-3431(販売)　FAX*03-3551-1208　URL*http://ktcom.jp/

ヴァルキリーコミックス
ローズ×マリー 2
2009年5月15日　初版発行

著者:浦瀬しおじ

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編集:キルタイムコミュニケーション

装丁:キルタイムコミュニケーション制作部

印刷所:図書印刷株式会社

発行:株式会社キルタイムコミュニケーション
〒104-0041　東京都中央区新富1-3-7ヨドコウビル
編集部　TEL:03-3551-6147／FAX:03-3551-6146
販売部　TEL:03-3555-3431／FAX 03-3551-1208

禁無断転載 978-4-86032-753-8 C0979
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「隔月刊コミックヴァルキリー」
2008年7月号/2008年9月号/2008年11月号/2009年1月号/2009年3月号/2009年5月号

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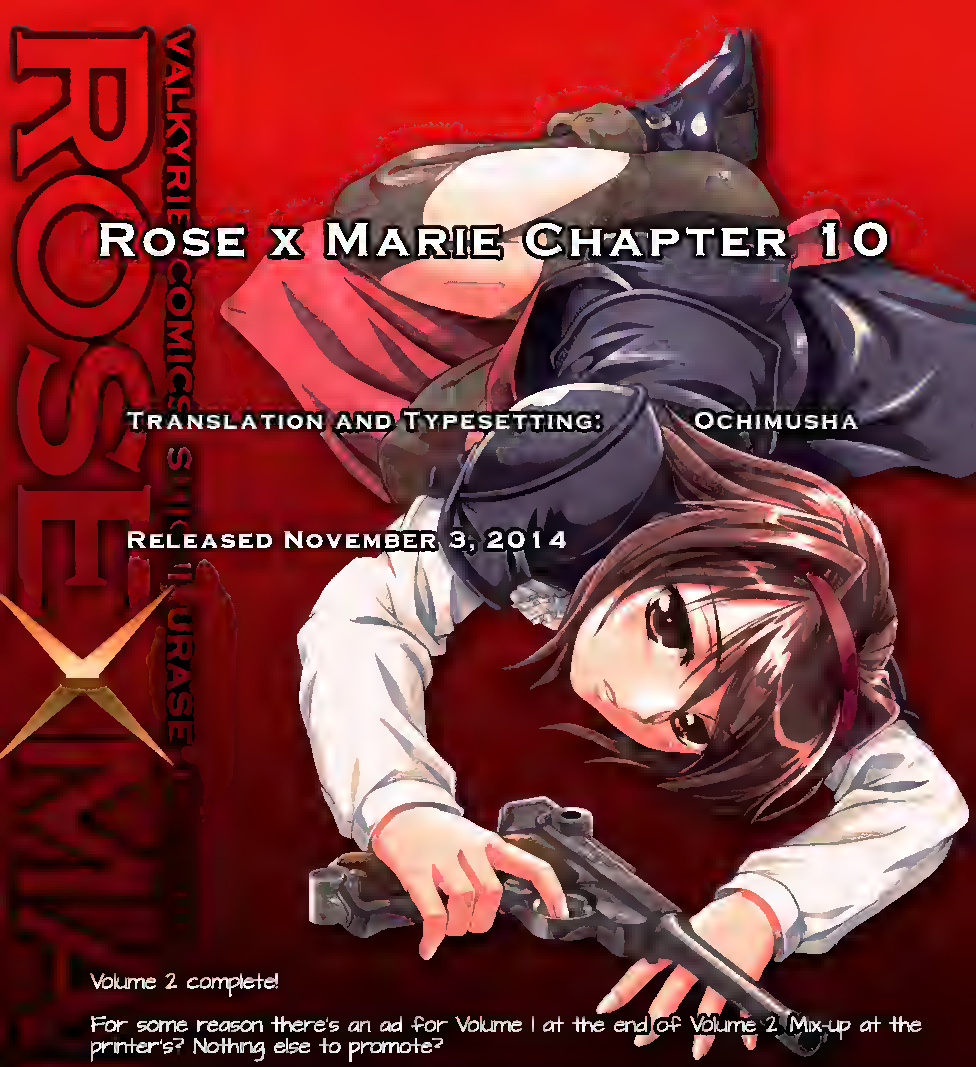

Rose x Marie Chapter 10

Translation and Typesetting: Ochimusha

Released November 3, 2014

Volume 2 complete!

For some reason there's an ad for Volume 1 at the end of Volume 2. Mix-up at the printer's? Nothing else to promote?

This is a bit of an unfortunate place in the story to say it, but unfortunately it's likely that I won't be able to release any further chapters for a while. As I've said before, there aren't any scans of Volume 3 that I'm aware of, and I don't have the time or equipment to scan it myself. If it does happen to pop up at some point in the future, let me know on the web site and I'll try to get working on it. But unless that happens, this is as far as I can go. I hope you've enjoyed it!

In the meantime, I'm getting ready to start a new series that I've been very eager to get working on, so I hope you'll be there for that one too. Until then!

Say hi and keep up with releases at http://ochimusha.wordpress.com